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A N A D D R E S S

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

MIDDLETOWN

COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

AT THEIR

Annual Meeting,

JULY 4, 1834.

BY D. D. WHEDON,

PROFESSOR OF LANGUAGES IN THE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.

MIDDLETOWN:

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S. A. Green Middletown, July 7th, 1834.

SIR,

We take pleasure in announcing to you the annexed resolution of the MIDDLETOWN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, in reference to your address at their Anniversary on the 4th instant.

The high degree of gratification which that performance afforded, as well as a desire to diffuse information upon the subject, induce us in behalf of the Society, to urge their request, with the hope that you will comply with the same.

The Committee beg leave to tender their regards, with assurances of their highest esteem.

THOMAS MINER, 2d.,
D. HARRISON,
A. W. SMITH.

"Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be presented to Professor D. D. WHEDON for his Address : and that Drs. Thomas Miner, 2d., D. Garrison, and Professor A. W. Smith, be a Committee to wait on him, and request a copy for publication."

Professor D. D. WHEDON.

Middletown, July 8, 1834.

GENTLEMEN,

Not without reluctance am I induced, in deference to better judgments than my own, to present a performance, which late notice and pressing avocations did not allow me fully to prepare, and which obvious reasons forbid me to alter, as a feeble contribution to a cause entitled to the best exertions of abler advocates than

Yours, Gentlemen,
With sentiments of the highest respect,
D. D. WHEDON.

Dr. THOMAS MINER, 2d., }
Dr. D. HARRISON, } Committee of the Society.
Prof. A. W. SMITH,

A D D R E S S.



IN presenting to the audience, the interests of the Society whose cause I advocate, I am conscious of an appropriate unison between the subject and the day. To embalm the memory of the illustrious dead,—to recal before the mind's eye the scenes of our past eventful history,—to contemplate the blessings and the privileges with which all-bounteous Providence hath crowned our happy land, might indeed furnish matter for spirit-stirring thought ; but what more grateful homage can we pay to the illustrious departed, or what greater proof of our worthiness of such an ancestry, than to aid in diffusing over other continents the freedom which their heroism, under God, purchased for ours ?

The Colonization Society, in its origin, history, and purposes, is unique and original. Liberia stands alone upon the world's map—alone in the world's history. Other emigrations have gone forth,—but they have been driven by persecution, or lured alone by hardy adventure ; other national projects have been founded,—but they have been based merely upon the hope of gain or of ambition : this alone has gone forth from the spontaneous out-pourings of private Christian munificence, and laid its foundations not merely upon the basis of self-aggrandizement, but upon the eternal principles of national benevolence and universal philanthropy.

Its origin was as striking as is its character. Within a small room, in the nation's capital, in the year 1817, some twelve men assembled, unsurrounded by any of the insignia of power, save the dignity of their own noble characters, quietly and calmly to project the plan so portentous of bright hopes to unconscious, slumbering Africa. It was a scene which the heart suppresses its pulsations to contemplate. Were they, even, conscious of the simple, yet striking sublimity of their own movements ? Some calculations of a grand prospective might

have opened upon them, but national events and gigantic enterprises were business matters to such minds. Happy men! many of you have enjoyed hours of proud triumph, but none so thrilling a moment as that: some of you will have left honorable memorials of your existence, but none a more illustrious monument than the enterprise of that memorable day.

A project so bold was little likely to be received with universal concurrence. The era of stupendous philanthropic enterprise had not then arrived; the timid trembled at it as impracticable, and the sceptical ridiculed it as visionary. The advocates of slavery, almost *en masse*, were opposed to it as likely to disturb, ultimately, the existing state of things. A few even of these for a while supported it, under the notion, that by rendering slavery more safe, it would confirm the permanence of that relation. Their desertion, while it subtracted something from its numerical strength, did, by relieving the steadfast and philanthropic slave-holding supporters from the suspicion of similar interested motives, really add to its moral force. The jealous northerner could hardly believe, that any philanthropy could come from a slave-holder, and it required this sifting to bring out, in clear relief and bold action, the *slave-holding enemy of slavery*. Slowly and gradually did these jealousies lessen; national philanthropy has constantly been disclosing in new effort the energies that were slumbering in her arm; and in accordance with the spirit of the age, the Colonization Society has gone on, trusting to the splendor of its success for the refutation of the calumnies it endured, and exulting in the complete vindication of its own resplendent beneficence, in the ultimate monument of its labors, beyond the broad Atlantic.

The first direct movement of the Colonization Society, was in the year 1817, to send out two agents, (one of whom was the lamented Samuel J. Mills,) for the purpose of exploring the western coast of Africa. In 1820, eighty-eight colonists, under the care of three agents, were sent; but as they arranged matters so unfortunately as to arrive there during the sickly rainy season, the news was soon announced, in this country, that the three agents, with more than twenty colonists, were carried off by the fever of the climate, heightened by exposure, fatigue, and want of medical aid. By no means disheartened at this melan-

choly result, the succeeding year twenty-eight more colonists were sent out, the spot was selected, the emigrants settled, and at the close of the year 1821, the foundations were laid of that colony, which has since received the name of *Liberia*.

The country to which this appropriate name has been given, is a sea-coast strip of about 280 miles in length and 30 in breadth, separated from the eastern interior by a belt of almost impassable forests. Its soil, well watered by beautiful streams, is said to reward an easy cultivation with all the productions of tropical climates. The harbor of Monrovia, the principal town, pronounced to be the best between Gibraltar and the Cape of Good Hope, is already visited by the flags of the different commercial nations. The varied successes and calamities, resulting sometimes from inevitable providences, and sometimes from the errors and mismanagements incident to so untried a scheme, and the statements which would result in the obviation of many popular objections, I have not time to detail. Catastrophes it has suffered, but these have been merely sufficient to try the nerve, not to dishearten the soul. It has been keenly and justly scrutinized, but has never shrunk; it has been fiercely scathed, but not broken. About twelve years have passed since her first founding, and yet, through vicissitude and disaster, through the desertion of friends and the hostilities of opponents, through invasion and disease, Liberia has held her triumphant way; and, never more triumphant than at the present moment, she still stands the child of Christian benevolence, the nursling of a guardian providence, the hope of unborn nations.

It is not denied that its enemies may point to many errors and failures, but these are merely incidentals, which affect not the main question; while on the other hand, it may be safely asserted that not only has the colony accomplished all that could have been expected in so brief a progress, but that few benefactions, at so small an expense, occupying so little hitherto of public attention, and in the face of so formidable an opposition, have effected so much good. Upon the very spot where Liberia now presents an asylum of liberty, was once the theatre of the slave trade, the market place of human souls. Without claiming that the colony is a *miniature millennium*, it may confidently be asserted that a settlement possessing even the average morality

of an American village with its intellectual advantages, will be, in the so sarcastically echoed language of Mr. Clay, "a missionary of civilization and religion." No one who has observed the susceptibility of the African character to the influences of civilization, can reasonably doubt the efficacy of such a contiguity ; and it little becomes the professed peculiar friend of the negro to depreciate the noble traits that characterize that race. The native of our forests seems all but inaccessible to our most philanthropic efforts. Invite him to a civilized home, he comes and goes—a savage. Educate him, and he flies back to his forest again—a savage. Isolate a whole tribe within surrounding civilization, and he withers and dies away—a savage. But the African, on the other hand, with a spirit which, rightly understood, is above all ridicule, and susceptible of the noblest direction, loves the privileges, aspires to the refinements, and catches the decorums of social life. Yet he does this, under the pressure of a cruel and overwhelming public contempt ; he does it at the expense of an infamous ridicule, which finds a warrant for heartless insult in the color of his face, wherever he shows it. But if this be here the case, under the weight of so tremendous an oppression, what must be the fact when he stands upon his own free soil, where ridicule hushes its cowardly tones, and he acknowledges no superior but his God ? Can it be, that these noble elements will not take a still nobler aspiration, when the exalting prospect of freedom and of empire open before him, upon his own ancestral land ? His spirit would swell at the touch of his own free soil like the Highland chief's, restored to his country and his clan, when 'his foot was again upon his native hills, and his name was M'Gregor !' And when the splendid miracles of civilized life are exhibited, in all their wonders, before the native African, who possessing the same original noble capacity, has never bowed his neck to the slaver's chain,—when he learns, by the example of his own brother, of his own hue, that these are not the patent prerogatives of a white skin, will not the same predisposition to catch and arrogate the proud advantages of elevated character, prompt them to seize and transfer, from man to man and from tribe to tribe, the ennobling qualities to be acquired from civilization, science, and Christianity ? I appeal to fact. Upon the shore of Africa, is arising an

infant nation, exhibiting gradually many of the blessings of organized government ; its schools are offering the rudiments, and its high schools will soon offer the superior branches of education ; its infant cities, extending their streets over a soil to which they are giving a constantly rising value ; its press, diffusing the means of popular information ; its harbors, visited by the floating banners of the different nations of the earth ; its courts, and its legislative halls dictating and dispensing wholesome laws, and its sacred spires pointing to heaven, emblematic of that religion whose spirit breathes their life into all these institutions, and offers the same blessings of science and of salvation even to them. And what are the effects ? Brief time as these causes have had to develope and operate, and retarded as they have been by accidental misunderstandings, pushed into open hostilities, already has many a prelude to a full appreciation of these advantages, displayed itself. Thousands have put themselves under the protection of the colony ; their youth are catching the spirit of education ; surrounding nations are anxious for the advantages of their intercourse, and neighboring kings have been clamorous for the benefits of their friendship. The conquest of prejudices, the exhibition of the utilities of civil life, and the transformation of the character, are not indeed the work of so brief a day. Who does not know that the commencement presents the great contest ; that every new gain will present new facilities, for still greater successes ? Of the hundreds your schools educate, each may become the teacher, in geometric ratio, of other hundreds, and you know not what enkindling spark, rising and spreading, like the conflagration of our own summer prairies, may diffuse its light and shed a new lustre over that now benighted, yet noble spirited population :

I hear you say, perhaps, "Aye, but this is too romantic a picture for plain matter of fact men." I am addressing a Christian assembly ;—in many who are most sceptical on this subject, I cordially recognise the Christian character. Of them I ask, Shall Ethiopia stretch forth her hands to God ? Shall the earth be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea ? And shall Africa be overspread with the light of Christianity and of civilization ? The picture then is touched, not with the hues of romance—but of inspiration. The

coloring is not mine,—but your Bible's ;—and I am but a faint copyist. You grant then, that the hope is not visionary ; the scheme is not impracticable. Our purpose is to realize this picture, and you concede that that purpose will be accomplished. And what auxiliary more effective, could the missionary enterprise desire, than Liberia presents ? Here may be the grand depot of resources ; the great organization of plans. What fitter place, for the herald of Christianity to rest his foot, and replume his wing for his flight into the dark interior ?

But it is not in revelation alone, that I read noble promises of renovation for Africa. He studies men and things carelessly and coldly, who does not discover consoling lessons of hope for the future. The series of past history,—the progressive character of the human mind,—the successively brightening dispensations of Providence tell me, that the world is a school whose bitterest lessons have been learned, and whose brightest are yet to come. Does any man believe that Africa shall not yet show a brighter page, or fear that perpetual darkness is to wrap her fair fields and fertile vales ? No ; the genius of the age,—the spirit of Christian enterprise,—the character, the command, and the promises of Heaven forbid it, and cheer us on in the prosecution of *our* great design.

It has been the fortune of Liberia to live down objection, and to stand in herself their triumphant refutation. An eminent and revered character, who has avowed a change of views, adverse to the Colonization Society, has stated that by the non-consent or unanimous opposition of the colored people of this country, “*the society is morally annihilated.*” Now, laying aside the refutation of this assertion, which arises from the fact that want of emigrants has never been one of the embarrassments of the Society, we may confidently look to the *success of the colony*, for the effecting an entire and opportune change of their views of the subject. So far is the opposition of the mass of the colored population, from being a *moral annihilation* of the colony, that it is altogether probable, that it has been its preservation. Had it been universally popular, previous to the full success of the colony, and had there been a rush, in mass, of our colored population, fatal indeed might have been the result. But meanwhile, they have entertained fearful visions of the inhospitable,

and pestilential character of the country ; and the colored man has learned to prefer this land of civilization, with all its oppressions, to the unknown horrors of such a refuge. Liberia has appeared to him, a monster beyond the ocean, whose voracity was ever insatiable, and whose cry was ever clamorous, for victims like him. Nor have the views of his advisers been apparently much more correct. The simple offer of the Colonization Society, to aid him, if he preferred to emigrate, has by a strange application of terms, been styled banishment, forcible expatriation, and what not. Leaving this infelicitous *mismanagment* of words to its own fate, we are confident that the colored men of this country, will, without any logic of ours, become completely disabused on this subject. The *colony itself* will console their fears and render any forcible expulsion unnecessary. Liberia will yet proudly rise, be her own vindicator, and their asylum. Pour the energics of national philanthropy upon her ; make her resplendent with success ; and, rising like a beacon of hope and of refuge, the power of the attraction on her part over the negro, will render perfectly unnecessary any repulsion upon ours.

But not less striking will be the effect of the colony upon those who may ultimately remain. An earnest, and no doubt, philanthropic desire is expressed, by the professed friends of the colored population, for the elevation of their character among us. I fully coincide in that desire, and deeply reprobate any causes operating to prevent a just amelioration of their condition. At the same time, however, we may differ, materially, with regard to the means of effecting such a purpose. I would, at least, be cautious, how I inspired them with a sullen venom towards evils which at present were irremovable. I would hesitate to produce a transformation in their character, which should place them in a warfare of feeling against the whites, that may aggravate, but can never relieve their misery. This constitutes, to them, a bitter taste of the tree of knowledge ; for while it does not really elevate their character, it draws down upon them more heavily, that very depression which constitutes their misery. This is, in fact, precisely reversing the desired effect, for it is redoubling the great cause of their depression—the severe and contemptuous opinion of the whites towards them.

Let then some triumphant vindicator of their character stand forth upon the world's eye ; prove the native nobleness of their minds, and dissolve the strange association that exists between a negro and a semi-brute ; and you demolish the evil in its strong hold, for you abolish the deep laid prejudices of the whites. Such a vindicator the success of Liberia would present. For once, in the course of modern history, you will give the negro character fair play for developing itself, and one such tangible, living, towering demonstration will be worth ten thousand abstract arguments.

Nor less effective will be the operation towards the grand result—the final staying of the curse—the ultimate abolition of slavery. *Every Liberian ship, commissioned by African enterprise, would wave its banners within our ports, a more powerful preacher of emancipation, than a whole flying cohort of itinerant lecturers.* Laying aside the consideration, that the withdrawal of the dangerous influence of the free blacks would give the master a breathing spell from the horror of his fears, and permit the operation of better and kindlier feelings ; laying aside the consideration, that by providing the emancipating slave-master a safe method, and the slave a secure refuge, it would relieve the country from the dangers of pouring upon society a vagabond horde from the southern hot houses ; aside, I say, from these important considerations, it must be, that every expanding institution upon the African coast, should cause the negro to “swell beyond the measure of his chain.” He is own brother to a rising nation, and the master cannot be blind to the dignifying effect of the relationship. Upon that rising people the nations of the civilized world are collecting their philanthropy ; and that generous sentiment must reflect in sympathy upon the slave, and indignation upon the still remaining masters. Under the united effect of these intense and concentrated and increasing influences, it cannot but be, that the iron fetter shall dissolve from around the slave, and he join the emancipated nations of the earth.

For many years, the main contest of the Colonization Society was with the friends of slavery, the timid jealousies of fearful supporters, and the intrinsic difficulties of the project itself. Of late, however, it has arisen from a new and unex-

pected quarter—the professed and ardent patrons themselves of the negro. In the year 1832, a new scheme announced itself for his relief, designing to erect itself upon the ruins of the Colonization plan. In brief, the proposition of the emancipationist is, to induce the Southerner to immediately free his slaves. The proposition of the Colonizationist is, to offer to all who are freed, the opportunity and facilities of a spontaneous voluntary emigration, to the land from which the slave has been stolen. Now upon the first flush one is inclined to ask, What is there incompatible in these two plans? If the Emancipationist have any means of peaceably inducing the Southerner to manumit the slave, why not apply to it, and allow the Colonizationist, in his own sphere, to complete the benefaction, by restoring every manumitted slave, who desires it, to the land of his ancestry? Will the Emancipationist reiterate the stale objection, that Colonization timidly leaves the relation of master and slave undisturbed, and so abandons the poor negro to the cruelty of his oppressor? Then let him apply himself, not to destroy the benefit of Colonization, but to supply the field of benevolence which it leaves untouched. What should we say, were the Bible Society to denounce the Missionary scheme, because it impiously supported the plan of evangelizing the world, by mere fallible men; and left the benighted heathen to perish, for the want of the volume of inspiration. In both cases, each Society has, and should have, without impeding the other, its own sphere of operation.

But the very originator of the new scheme settled, in the outset, all question of compromise. His scheme came forth from his brain, like Pallas from Jupiter's, armed and equipped with war-like proclamation, and belligerent attitude. Under a better command, the broad sea of universal benevolence might have been wide enough for both; and *their* superadded auxiliary banners might, perhaps, have waved under better auspices, in hope and freedom to Africa: but their first launch was defiance, their first salute, a broadside. Mr. Garrison announced his opposition, in a style warm with fulminating energy, and rich with inventiveness of imagination. He pronounced the Society a "conspiracy against human rights;" he asserted that "the superstructure of the Society

rests upon the following pillars—1. Persecution ; 2. Falsehood ; 3. Cowardice ; 4. Infidelity.” “If,” says he, “I do not prove the Colonization Society to be a creature without brains, eyeless, unnatural, hypocritical, relentless and unjust, let me be covered with confusion of face.” This pretty bouquet of epithets was culled, let it be remembered, for such men as Lafayette, President Madison, Judge Marshall, Bishops Mead and M’Kendree, Webster and Frelinghuysen, men of different sections, political parties, and religious denominations. Of this liberal spirit, Mr. Garrison has made no monopoly; he has imparted the same style of rhetoric to his whole school. The master-chorister has given the key-note, and the tune has been run through the whole octave of discordant strains.

The professed purposes of the Anti-Slavery Society, with regard to slavery itself, will be considered as twofold—The awakening a more active abhorrence of slavery in the north ; and the inducing the southerners to bring about the immediate emancipation of their slaves.

To effect the former of these two purposes, all the topics of glowing declamation, of which slavery is so fertile, are put in requisition: Most conclusive proofs of the negro’s right to his liberty—where nobody doubts it ; most servid denunciations of slavery—where no slavery exists ; most magnanimous professions of a readiness for martyrdom—where there is no danger of it ; and a most prudent avoidance of those regions where there might be such a danger,—constitute a very rich field, for a very safe display of heroics and tragics. To such a paroxysm of rhetoric, the cool New Englander listens, and when it is spent, he feels, perhaps, inclined to reply, “Why, Sir, if it be merely your purpose, to prove that slavery is horribly bad, or that two and two make four, from my very soul, I never doubted one of these facts more than the other.” He most justly feels, that there is a great waste of logic and oratory expended in inculcating such feelings upon him. Not blazing out into angry effervescence, but deep in his heart, there is an abhorrence of slavery, whether pressing upon the caste of India, the serf of Russia, or the negro of Carolina, which renders this declamation quite a superfluity.

But these stirring movements, are but preparatory to their

other grand purpose, of inspiring the southern mind with the purpose of manumitting their slaves. With regard to the practicability of immediate emancipation, I shall say nothing; for there exists a previous consideration, which, in my humble opinion, should, of itself, put an arresting veto upon the Abolitionist's career. It is one thing, to demonstrate that practicability to the New Englander, and another thing, to bring it home upon the Southerner: and every procedure of the Abolitionist has tended to close the Southern ear against him. The very worst temper shuts the valve against the very best argument. To whisper a syllable of all the palliating circumstances that mitigate the slave-holder's guilt, they denounce, as an infamous apology for slavery. They paint the master, born to his condition, in all the blackness of the original kidnapper; they make it a crime in the Colonizationist, that he holds possession of the most liberal slave-master's confidence; the late report of the New England Anti-Slavery Society hurls forth the reproach, with marks of exclamation, that the Legislatures of five slaveholding States had passed highly encomiastic resolutions upon the Colonization Society: and are these the men whom the South are likely to adopt as their guides and counsellors? On the contrary, the presence of their publications would be cursed, as a calamitous visitation of destruction. It destroys the confidence between master and slave, rendering the former fearfully suspicious, and the latter more terribly oppressed; it checks the rising sympathy, crushes the expanding liberality, and binds faster the iron fetter. By a strange fatuity, this Society proclaims the fact, (as if utterly unconscious how much they were its causes,) that during the last two years, five slaveholding States had passed laws of still more rigorous severity than had ever yet disgraced their statute books. Vainly do they tell us that these facts but prove and aggravate the southern infatuation. Our reply is,—Admit their guilt in all its damning blackness, your precepts but instigate them, in fact, to still deeper crime; and your protection plunges the slave in still darker misery. You would convince the South, while the South is one mass of adamant against every syllable you send upon her, and every movement you make, but confirms the solidity. Your main suc-

cess is in defeating yourselves; your advance is—backwards; and when the bonds of the slave shall be finally broken, it will be, not in consequence, but in spite of your sadly mistaken efforts.

But you will rouse the slumbering spirit of the north, then. Alas! what will you then have gained, towards persuading the slave-holder of the south? All the North may most religiously hold to Abolitionism, and all the South may most impiously denounce it. Old experience tells us that the eternal Potomac may be a most impassable boundary line of opinions. You have but to make New England a whirlpool of Abolitionism, to make the South the precise reverse. The very fact that we are in a blaze of commotion, burning for interference, will, by a revulsion of feeling, produce an opposite partizanship, and seal our fate, perhaps, for centuries. The seers of European despotism, have yearly pointed to our slaves, and prophesied for us approaching dissolution—and you are hastening its verification. The tottering despot has gazed upon our fearful example, with terror for his fate, and nightly sent up his prayers for our ruin—and you are becoming the minister of their fulfilment.

I am far from asserting, that any of our fellow-citizens are friends to a dissolution of our Union; yet am I mistaken if there are not some, who would contemplate even that as an admissible means for effecting, what they suppose the most righteous of purposes; who would consider any regard to its preservation as a wicked preference of expediency to right: misguided men, who would march to slave-emancipation over the ruins of the demolished Constitution! Without asking what right there can be in endangering the happiness and liberties of the whole, for the benefit of one-sixth, are they so moonstruck as not to see that a revolution which ruined the Union, would, in all probability, plunge in deeper ruin the object of their fond solicitude, the slave? While they lost every thing for all else, they would gain nothing for him. Are their eyes so bewildered, as that through scenes of civil strife, through the smoke of battle and of massacre, they can descry visions of peace and freedom for the slave? But I turn from the sickening picture: in calm reliance upon the good sense of our citizens, the better genius of my country, and

the guidance of the God of our fathers; I prophesy, *such scenes shall never be.*

I turn to a more attractive object—the saving policy of this Society, and the rising monument of its benevolence upon another hemisphere,—**THE BENEFACTRESS OF TWO CONTINENTS—THE MEDIATRIX BETWEEN TWO RACES,—POINTING THE PATH OF PEACE TO AMERICA, AND REGENERATION TO AFRICA.**

Say not that I calculate too warmly for Africa. He has not wisely studied the history of his own country, who has not learned how feeble beginnings have eventuated the grandest results. Roll back the pictured scroll of chronicled ages, and reveal to me a glimpse of two centuries ago. I see a lonely ship approaching the shore of a forest continent,—yet hanging, as it does, in trembling suspense upon the tossing wave,—I fear not for its heaven guided fate ;—for its fragile deck is freighted with an empire's destinies. Flung by persecution's hand upon Plymouth's rock—in spite of the wintry blast, the dense forest, the sterile soil, the savage foe and the despot's oppression,—that Pilgrim band of adventurous voyagers, have swelled to the mighty empire, that now sits upon New England's hills, shadows her coast, and hurls her thunders upon the broad Atlantic. And my friends, what is proud history for us, is prouder prophecy for Africa. Far less difficulties has a rising nation upon her peaceful and fertile shores,—far less visionary to appearance, are the prospects we hope for her, than the realities which history presents for us. Besides, the day has been when Africa was the proudest of her sister continents. The diadem of nations is no stranger to her sable brow ;—her fields and shores are the seat of old dominion. The shadows of departed empires, older than the birth of history, are hovering round her eternal pyramids !

Who would have it recorded of him that he aided not in Africa's restoration? Better be her buried martyr than her living foe. Most truly have our opposers published, that no man would like to have it recorded upon his tomb stone, “**THIS MAN ADVOCATED THE SLAVE TRADE.**” Such an epitaph would indeed be a marble execration. But a still deeper monumental sarcasm would be, **HERE LIES THE MAN, WHO, OUT OF PURE LOVE FOR THE AFRICAN, WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE REGENERATION OF AFRICA.**

'And who would not claim it, as a rich privilege, to make a sacrifice for her emancipation. When the world shall have better learned to estimate true glory, her benefactors and martyrs will receive the homage, long paid to the warrior's deeds. I hear the funeral sigh, wasted by the breeze across the Atlantic wave, telling that another—and another—is fallen! There are those among us, whose tears, for the severing of the nearest ties, have demanded our sympathies. Hushed is the mercy breathing voice and cold the generous beating heart;—yet the green sod above them is sacred—bedewed with the tears of Ethiopia's living sons, and hallowed with the reverence of her coming generations. Their names, entwined with her history, shall be the inspiration of future song, and the theme of future story. They came from a far land, bearing hope to the despairing and life to the dying: they were heroes who fell in a battle unstained with blood: they will repose like priceless gems upon Africa's grateful bosom;—and in the day of eternity, they will rise from the most glorious of all mausoleums—**A CONTINENT their lives were sacrificed to redeem.**

If, against all human probability, the enterprise for which they suffered and we toil, be a mistaken one, the noble humanity of its motive, will fully sanctify the error of its adoption;—if, in the dispensation of a mysterious Providence, it be ultimately prostrated, it shall be sufficient for us to have deserved success;—and, with the full hopes of that success, in the name of God, and in the name of man, we commend it to your holiest sympathies, your richest liberality, and your most devoted exertion.







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